

Regular Town Commission Meeting Agenda

Section: New Business
Meeting Date: May 21, 2026
Subject: Stormwater Assessment Rate Increase
Submitted By: A. Marie Smith, Town Manager and Jenny Kerr, Finance Director

Background Information

During the Budget Workshop on May 12, 2026, the Commission discussed raising the fee for the annual stormwater utility assessment, which is utilized as a maintenance fund for stormwater repairs (separate from the stormwater capital projects fund). The Melbourne Beach Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) is the basis of calculations for the stormwater assessment and has remained static since its inception in 2000. It has not kept pace over the last 26 years with the rising costs of materials, engineering and labor that have caused stormwater repairs to increase significantly.

This has resulted in an inadequate amount collected for stormwater maintenance. Some examples of average repairs in recent years (*not including* patch repairs, baffle box cleanings or other routine maintenance) are:

\$33,310	Cherry at Redwood (2023)
\$19,641	Riverside at Avenue B (2025)
\$60,964	410 Riverview Lane (2026)
\$24,543	Sixth and Oak (2026)

To rectify the funding situation without causing the town to take on direct tax collecting, the town can raise the *dollar amount* per ERU ascribed to each property (currently the rate is ERU = \$36). Three legally defensible options used to raise stormwater assessments include:

1. Hire an expert to conduct a rate study.
2. Base increases on a robust 5-year Stormwater Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).
3. Base increases on the Consumer Price Index over the past 26 years.

Since there is not enough time or funding to procure a professional rate study and the town does not have a current 5-year Stormwater CIP, the most expedient and direct way to provide a stormwater rate adjustment is to tie it to the Consumer Price Index based on the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Further, there is a local precedence for basing stormwater assessment increases on the CPI, as West Melbourne recently did so with the option to increase the stormwater utility rate each of the next five subsequent years by the CPI (not to exceed 5% in a year). By building in the automatic CPI, it avoids having to spend funds to mail public notices to every household each year.

Staff have consulted Brevard County’s Natural Resources Management Department and was provided a sample time frame with steps that need to be taken to complete the increase in stormwater utility assessment in time for FY27 billing.

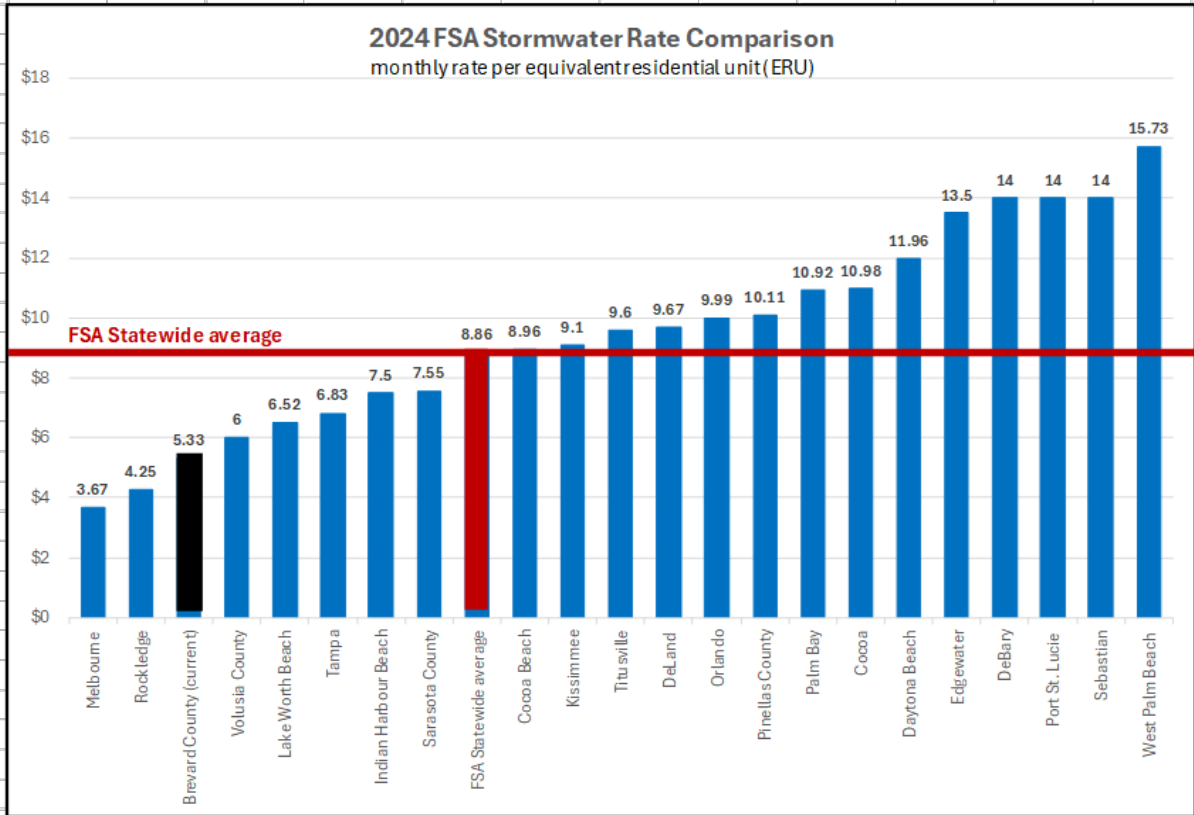
If the town agreed to pursue option three – increase by the CPI – the ERU would increase to \$68.90, if using the CPI for April 2026. This would provide an increase of approximately \$53.5K per year, projecting an annual stormwater maintenance budget of about \$111,898 for FY 2027.

FY2526 MELB BCH ERU MIN FEE INCREASE REVENUE FORECAST				
Current rate				
ERU	MIN	Total collected	Parcels billed	
\$36.00	\$2.35	\$58,371.64	1,607	
Forecasts				
ERU	MIN	Total collected	Variance	
\$68.90	\$2.35	\$111,898.00	+\$53,526.36	

The increase will be welcome with the mounting emergency stormwater repairs the town has been seeing in recent times and will also allow the town to have funding for other projects that can be done quickly to alleviate stormwater build up, such as swale or exfiltration construction.

The proposed adjusted CPI rate is also lower than the statewide average for stormwater assessment fee of \$106.32, as reported by the Florida Stormwater Association (see chart on next page, which shows a monthly rate per equivalent residential units). *The corresponding current monthly stormwater rate per month for Melbourne Beach would be \$3.00.*

FLORIDA STORMWATER ASSOCIATION (FSA) STATE-WIDE REPORTING



Recommendation:

Accept raising the dollar amount for the Equivalent Residential Unit to current year CPI and including an automatic increase by the twelve-month percent change in the urban CPI Southern region not to exceed 5.0% annually.

Valerie Citta, Stormwater Program Support Specialist Natural Resources Management Department (NRMD) Environmental Management Sect – Stormwater Program is on-hand to answer any questions about requirements to provide to the County tax office in time for fees to be adjusted for FY27.

Attachments:

Melbourne Beach Stormwater Fee Timeline for July 15, 2026, Public Hearing

**MELB BCH ST FEE CHANGES
JULY 15 PUBLIC HEARING TIMELINE**

June 15-19 DEADLINE

>**FINAL Draft of Legal Advertisement** – might want to call the paper of your choice to confirm. This is deadline Val has to have final draft to County agenda person to coordinate our ad for 1st publish date = June 30

>**FINAL Draft of Public Hearing Notice to print vendor w data export from Val**

June 24

Legal Ad must start running to meet statutory 20 day notice requirement

Public Hearing Notice Letter must mail out to meet 20-day notice requirement

*could be high call volumes, emails, walk-ins in response to letter & ad

July 1

Property Appraiser certifies Tax Roll to DOR/State

Data more accurate after this date

**FY2526 saw unusual late property add ons*

July 15

Public Hearing to Decide Stormwater Fee Increase

>Must have Agenda Item#1 requesting ERU increase, Auto CPI, Min Fee Increase

>Resolutions ready for any vote outcome – different numbers if all not approved

>Must have Agenda Item#2 requesting Roll be adopted

>Resolutions ready for any vote outcome – different numbers if all not approved

Aug 26 –Thu, Aug 27

Taxbill data file electronically submitted by Valerie to BCPAO

Inform IT to inform dev process to remove design credits

Aug 30

Final date to send assessment data file to BCPAO/Tax Collector

November 1

Property tax bills sent

Melbourne Beach Town Manager

From: Sanders, Teela <Teela.Sanders@dms.fl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 2:43 PM
To: Melbourne Beach Town Manager
Cc: Melbourne Beach Finance; Williams, Stuart
Subject: RE: Requesting information about state health insurance for small municipalities

Hi Marie,

We are happy to talk with you about our program and the statute that you referenced. Are you available tomorrow morning at 10:30 or tomorrow afternoon at 4:00? If so, I will send a teams link, or I can look at times on Thursday if that is more convenient.

Thank you, Teela



Teela Sanders

Director

Division of State Group Insurance

(850) 921-4631

teela.sanders@dms.fl.gov



[How are we doing? Click here to take the DMS Customer Satisfaction Survey.](#)

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From: Melbourne Beach Town Manager <TownManager@melbournebeachfl.org>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 3:02 PM
To: Sanders, Teela <Teela.Sanders@dms.fl.gov>
Cc: Melbourne Beach Finance <Finance@melbournebeachfl.org>
Subject: Requesting information about state health insurance for small municipalities

You don't often get email from townmanager@melbournebeachfl.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization! Please ensure that you were expecting this message before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Sanders,

I am the new manager for the town of Melbourne Beach with a population of a little over 4,000 residents. I understand that Florida law provides for small municipalities, such as Melbourne Beach, to join the state health insurance plan for better price options (see: <https://www.fisenate.gov/laws/statutes/2025/110.1228>).

I would like to find out more about this program and how it works. Please feel free to email or call me.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marie

A. Marie Smith

townmanager@melbournebeachfl.org

Direct: 321-396-7419

507 Ocean Ave., Melbourne Beach, FL 32951-2523

(321) 724-5860 Fax (321) 984-8994

www.melbournebeach

Brevard County's Oldest Beach Community – Established 1883

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The Florida Senate

2025 Florida Statutes

<u>Title X</u> PUBLIC OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND RECORDS	<u>Chapter 110</u> STATE EMPLOYMENT <u>Entire Chapter</u>	SECTION 1228 Participation by small counties, small municipalities, and district school boards located in small counties.
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110.1228 Participation by small counties, small municipalities, and district school boards located in small counties. —

(1) As used in this section, the term:

- (a) "District school board" means a district school board located in a small county or a district school board that receives funding pursuant to s. 1011.62(1)(f).
- (b) "Small municipality" means an incorporated municipality that has a population of 12,500 or fewer according to the most recent decennial census.
- (c) "Small county" means a county that has a population of 100,000 or fewer according to the most recent decennial census.

(2) The governing body of a small county or small municipality or a district school board may apply for participation in the state group health insurance program authorized in s. 110.123 and the prescription drug coverage program authorized by s. 110.12315 by submitting an application along with a \$500 nonrefundable fee to the department.

(3) Any costs or savings to the state group health insurance program or the prescription drug coverage program resulting from such participation shall be passed on to the local government participants and their employees. Such costs or savings shall be delineated based on the impact to the state, state officers and employees, and local government employers and their employees.

(4) As a prerequisite to the adoption of an ordinance or resolution for participation in the state group health insurance program and prescription drug coverage program, a small county, small municipality, or district school board shall issue a request for proposals to provide health insurance and prescription drug coverage. Such request for proposals shall seek coverages equivalent to those offered currently by the small county, small municipality, or district school board and coverages equivalent to the state group health insurance program and prescription drug coverage program. Such request for proposals must provide an opportunity for the receipt of competitive proposals from all interested parties without restriction. The small county, small municipality, and district school board shall review and consider all responsive proposals prior to the adoption of any ordinance or resolution for participation in the state group health insurance program and prescription drug coverage program.

(5) If the department determines that a small county, small municipality, or district school board is eligible to enroll, the small county, small municipality, or district school board must agree to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The minimum enrollment or contractual period will be 3 years.
- (b) The small county, small municipality, or district school board must pay to the department an initial administrative fee of not less than \$2.61 per enrollee per month, or such other amount established annually to fully reimburse the department for its costs.
- (c) Termination of participation of a small county, small municipality, or district school board requires written notice 1 year before the termination date.
- (d) If participation is terminated, a small county, small municipality, or district school board may not reapply for participation for a period of 2 years.
- (e) Small counties, small municipalities, and district school boards shall reimburse the state for 100 percent of its costs, including administrative costs.
- (f) If a small county, small municipality, or district school board employer fails to make the payments required by this section to fully reimburse the state, the Department of Revenue or the Department of Financial Services shall,

upon the request of the Department of Management Services, deduct the amount owed by the employer from any funds not pledged to bond debt service satisfaction that are to be distributed by it to the small county, small municipality, or district school board. The amounts so deducted shall be transferred to the Department of Management Services for further distribution to the trust funds in accordance with this chapter.

(g) The small county, small municipality, or district school board shall furnish the department any information requested by the department which the department considers necessary to administer the state group health insurance program and the prescription drug coverage program.

(h) The small county, small municipality, or district school board shall adopt the state's eligibility rules.

(i) The small county, small municipality, or district school board may not participate in the state's cafeteria plan that allows for pretax treatment of premium contributions. If pretax treatment is desirable for employees of these participating employers, each employee of a participating employer shall execute a salary reduction agreement with that employer, and each participating employer shall establish its own cafeteria plan.

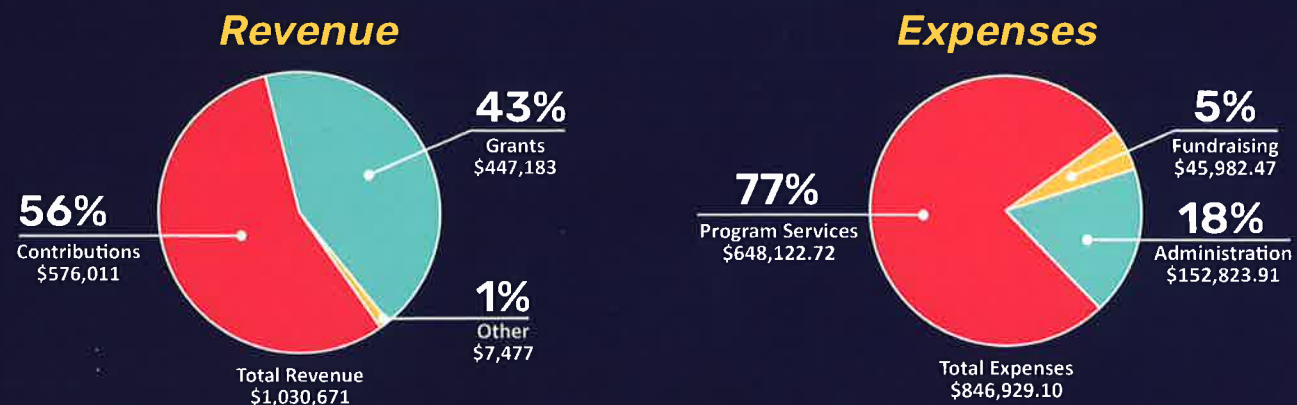
(j) The small county, small municipality, or district school board shall pay monthly premiums in amounts sufficient to cover claims costs, department administrative costs, and third-party administrative costs and provide for adequate reserves and cash flow by contributing 3 months' premiums and costs in advance of the coverage effective date.

(6) The provisions of ss. 624.436-624.446 do not apply to the State Group Insurance Program or to this section.

History.—s. 1, ch. 2001-285; s. 888, ch. 2002-387; s. 117, ch. 2003-261; s. 10, ch. 2006-27; s. 32, ch. 2012-116; s. 2, ch. 2023-245.

Disclaimer: The information on this system is unverified. The journals or printed bills of the respective chambers should be consulted for official purposes.

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY



The financial support reflected here represents more than funding. It reflects a shared belief that young adults deserve stability and opportunity. Contributions, grants, and volunteer hours strengthen WAYS' ability to provide coordinated, comprehensive wraparound services focused on housing, education, employment, healthcare, and social connections. Through careful stewardship and transparent reporting, resources are directed where they matter most, supporting young adults as they build stable, independent futures.

What We Achieved in 2025

- ✓ Expanded permanent housing through collaboration with Wings of Grace Ministries
- ✓ Expanded transitional housing with the opening of a second home
- ✓ Increased mental health services with the addition of an on-site mental health suite
- ✓ Established an Expansion Task Force to meet growing demand for comprehensive wraparound services

2026 Priorities

- Complete onsite expansion of the drop-in center to increase the capacity to serve more youth
- Expand transitional and permanent housing options
- Grow mentorship and parenting support programs
- Increase WAYS Career Exploration Lab business participants by 25%
- Advocate for change across housing, education, employment, healthcare, and legal systems to expand access and opportunity for youth

Member Spotlight Grace



Grace came to WAYS for Life seeking stability. With coordinated housing support, a WAYS mentor, access to mental health services, transportation services, career counseling, and legal advocacy, she was able to focus and achieve her goals.

Grace graduated from Eastern Florida State College with her Associate of Arts degree in May 2025 and is now pursuing her bachelor's degree. Through leadership development opportunities and WAYS consistent care management support, she built both confidence and independence.

Stable housing gave Grace more than a place to live. It created space to grow academically, strengthen her wellbeing, and prepare for long-term self-sufficiency.

"Having stable housing allowed me to focus on my future."



Letter from the Executive Director

When I began envisioning WAYS for Life, I believed that young adults transitioning from foster care and homelessness deserved more than temporary solutions. They deserved stability, dignity, and a coordinated system of support that would stay with them as they built their futures.

Because of you, that vision is no longer just an idea. It is a growing reality. As of December 31, 2025, we have served more than 530 teens and young adults and 226 of their dependent children since 2020.

None of this happens without a community that believes in the mission. Your generosity, partnership, and encouragement have carried us to this point. You have trusted the vision, invested in the work, and stood beside us as we continue to grow.

Thank you for believing in what is possible when stability comes first. Thank you for continuing to walk with us as we build pathways to independence for the young people we serve.

With gratitude,

Pamela M. Brass

Our Mission

WAYS for Life provides wraparound services for youth ages 15-25 formerly in foster care and those experiencing homelessness. In addition to supporting the successful transition to adulthood, we promote awareness of the needs of our members in our community and beyond.

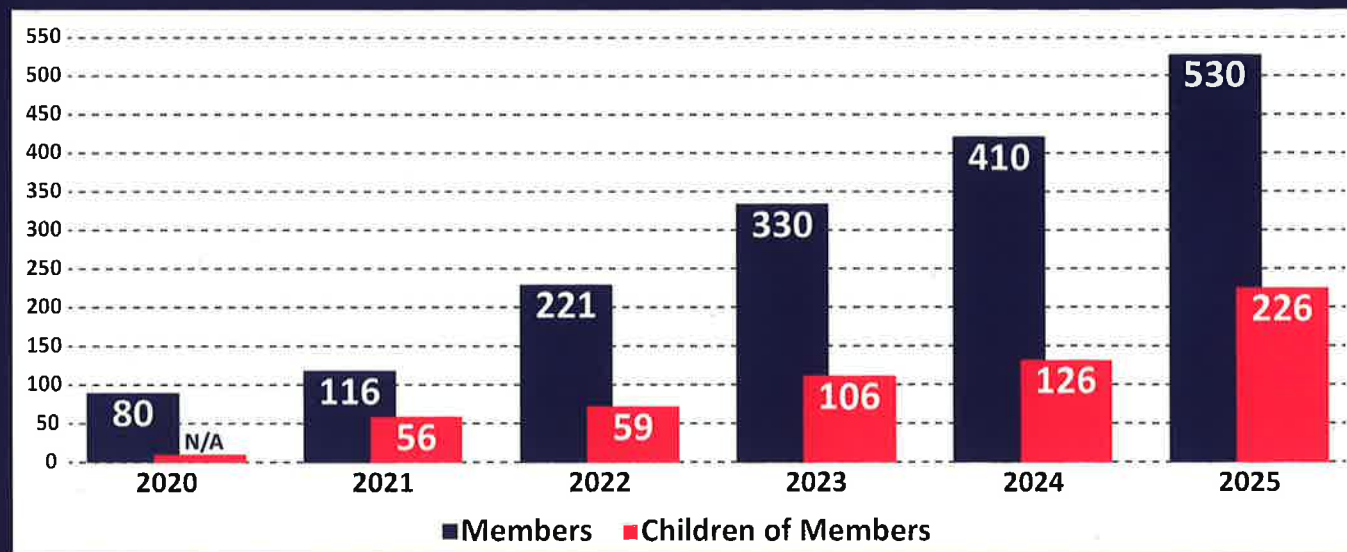
Our Vision

WAYS for Life envisions a future where all at-risk youth, ages 15-25, have access to comprehensive, wraparound support services that empower them to thrive and become successful, contributing members of society.

What is Wraparound Support?

A coordinated approach that begins with stable housing and integrates education, mental health, employment, legal advocacy, and life skills to create long-term independence.

GROWING SINCE 2020



Since 2020, WAYS has served 530 youth and 226 of their dependent children. As demand increased, WAYS expanded housing capacity and strengthened coordinated wraparound services to ensure the youth and their children have consistent support on their path toward long-term generational stability.



Volunteers are an essential part of the WAYS for Life model, extending the reach and depth of our services each day. In 2025, **157 volunteers** served as tutors, mentors, career coaches, and more, **contributing 7,650 hours of service valued at \$252,450**. Their time, talent, and consistency help ensure every member is supported with care and connection.

The pantry provides one example of the impact of our volunteers. In 2025, **171 members accessed the pantry**, receiving 9,895 essential food, hygiene, and household items **valued at \$11,891**.

Member Spotlight Sierra

When Sierra first came to WAYS for Life, she wasn't sure what the future held, only that she needed more stability and opportunity.

What she found was consistent support, encouragement, and people who believed in her potential. Through wraparound services, she completed her GED in the WAYS GED FastTrack Program in just one month, a milestone that became the foundation for what followed. The WAYS Transitional Housing program gave her the space to build routines, practice independent living skills, and fully engage in life skills programming.

With support from a WAYS mentor and the WAYS Career Pathways Program, Sierra recently transitioned directly from WAYS housing into her college dorm as a first-generation college student pursuing engineering, a powerful example of how stability unlocks potential.

WRAPAROUND SERVICES ARE THE FOUNDATION

Wraparound youth services create the stability needed for long-term independence.

Education

Building foundational skills and academic achievement as a pathway to long-term opportunity.

- 37 members enrolled in WAYS GED FastTrack program
- 7 members earned their GED
- 52 official GED tests administered
- Referrals to Career Pathways guidance and workforce alignment support
- Launched a hybrid education program for youth not yet ready for GED completion, focused on building reading, math, and workforce readiness skills
- 11 members participated in the WAYS LiftUp Life Skills class

Employment

Connecting members to meaningful work, career pathways, and financial independence.

- 230 members served through WAYS Career Pathways
- 77 members secured employment
- 10 members enrolled in on-the-job training
- 12 members enrolled in college
- 12 members enrolled in apprenticeships or certification programs
- Expanded partnerships with CareerSource and community employers
- Launched the Career Exploration Lab, focused on career planning, job search support, and exposure to the trades and military

Legal Advocacy

Removing legal barriers and securing documentation needed for housing, employment, and education.

- 63 households received legal services
- Critical legal advocacy provided by two WAYS for Life attorneys and volunteer counsel
- **Support With:**
 - FYI voucher applications
 - Family law issue resolution
 - Document review and preparation
 - Landlord intervention
 - Social Security disability applications
 - Securing Guardian Advocates and Representative Payees
 - Assistance accessing benefits



Care Management

Personalized, consistent support helping youth navigate systems and build stability for independence.

- 440 mental health appointments attended
- 286 members received individualized care management
- 583 hours and 6,370 miles of transportation provided for critical appointments
- 14 driver's licenses obtained
- Support securing Social Security cards, IDs, and birth certificates
- SNAP enrollment and benefits navigation support
- ELC childcare assistance

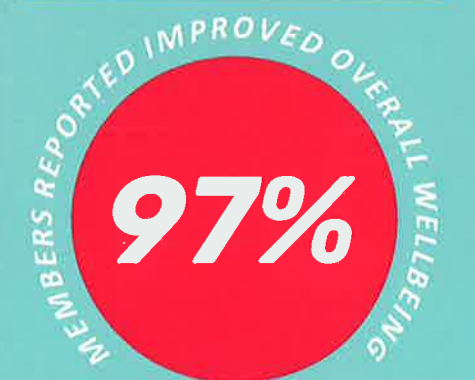
Housing

Providing safe, stable housing that supports each member's path toward independence.

- 25 members entered permanent housing
- 15 members entered transitional housing
- Second WAYS transitional home opened
- 2,576 hours of housing assistance provided
- 12 FYI vouchers awarded
- 22 FYI vouchers re-certified
- 73 members maintained stable housing for more than one year

FYI Voucher (Foster Youth to Independence)

A federal housing voucher that helps young adults formerly in foster care secure safe, stable housing with a three-year rent subsidy based on income while they transition to self-sustainability.



LET'S BE CLEAR...

THE HEALTH OF THE LAGOON IMPACTS YOU.

Lagoon Loyal™ is a program that rewards Brevard County residents for taking actions that benefit the Indian River Lagoon.



What is the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Program?

The Save Our Indian River Lagoon Program funds projects that improve the health, productivity, appeal, and economic value of our lagoon, to reverse decades of damage to this priceless natural treasure.

Where does the funding come from?

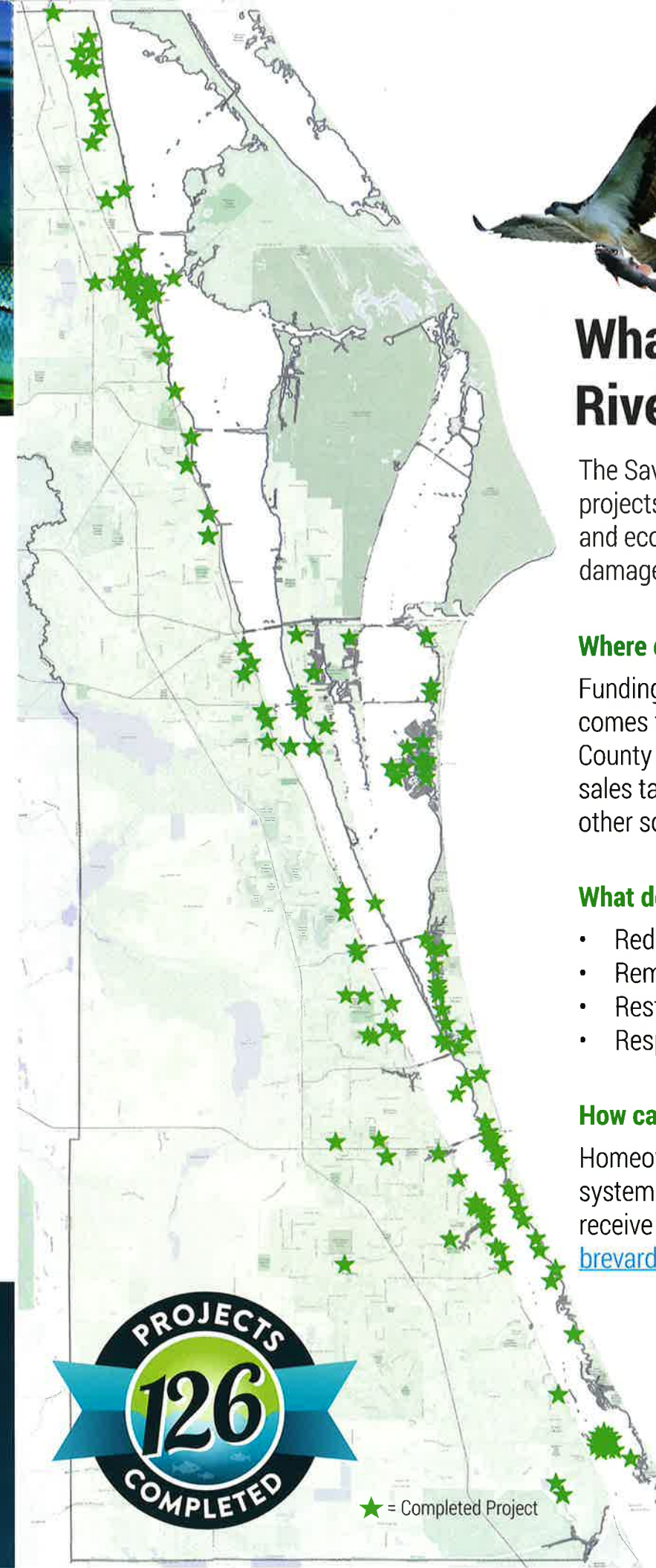
Funding for the Save Our Indian River Lagoon projects comes from a ½ cent sales tax, approved by Brevard County voters in 2016. Resident contributions to the sales tax have been doubled by tourists, grants, and other sources. This tax expires December 31, 2026.

What does the program do for the Indian River Lagoon?

- Reduces the major sources of pollution
- Removes decades of historic pollution
- Restores natural ecosystems
- Responds to new information and opportunities

How can you participate?

Homeowners can apply for funding to upgrade septic systems, convert to sewer, repair sewer lateral lines, and receive rewards for Lagoon Loyal actions. Learn more at brevardfl.gov/SaveOurLagoon and LagoonLoyal.com.



★ = Completed Project



1. SIGN UP

Create your free Lagoon Loyal Account

2. REPORT ACTIONS

Complete and report lagoon-friendly actions

3. EARN REWARDS

Earn rewards from local businesses



PUT TRASH IN ITS PLACE

Litter left on roadways can be carried to storm drains and into the lagoon – impacting our wildlife and our wallets.



WASH YOUR CAR OVER YOUR LAWN

Your lawn acts like a filter to keep harmful suds and dirt off the street and out of the lagoon.



FOLLOW FERTILIZER RESTRICTIONS

Honor the fertilizer ban during our rainy season: Jun 1 – Sep 30. Heavy rains can flush fertilizer off your grass and into the lagoon.



BLOW GRASS CLIPPINGS BACK INTO THE LAWN

Grass clippings left in the street can wash into storm drains and the lagoon, contributing to the accumulation of muck.



PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

When pet waste is left on the ground, harmful bacteria can enter the lagoon through storm drains and ditches.



ADJUST SPRINKLERS BEFORE RAIN

Excess irrigation leads to water runoff, which can introduce harmful pollutants into the lagoon.



INSPECT TO PROTECT

Inspect septic systems and sewer lines. Fixing leaks and failures reduces groundwater pollution and protects aquatic life.



REDUCE SEPTIC IMPACTS

Upgrade to advanced septic or connect to central sewer. Septic systems pollute groundwater that migrates to the lagoon.

COMMUNITY-WIDE EFFORTS FOR A HEALTHY LAGOON

Brevard County residents have reported thousands of ways they've personally reduced excess nutrient pollution from entering our beloved waterway. Keep up the great work!



2026 Save Our Indian River Lagoon

Project Status

Progress as of December 31, 2025

322,773
lbs total nitrogen (TN) reduced
178,966 lbs/year + 143,807 lbs one-time

125
Community
Projects
Completed!

2,356
Home Owner
Projects
Completed!

22,280
lbs total phosphorus (TP) reduced
15,963 lbs/year + 6,317 lbs one-time

Public Education & Engagement



Budget: \$4,000,742
TN Reduction: 33,709 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$119
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 6
Projects in the Plan: 7

WWTF Upgrades for Reclaimed Water



Budget: \$37,964,159
TN Reduction: 82,174 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$462
Projects Completed: 4
Projects Underway: 5
Projects in the Plan: 10

Rapid Infiltration Basin/Sprayfield Upgrades



Budget: \$93,054
TN Reduction: 317 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$294
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 2

Package Plant Connections



Budget: \$1,484,731
TN Reduction: 911 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,630
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 1
Projects in the Plan: 2

Smoke Testing/ Sewer Lateral Repairs



Budget: \$1,558,648
TN Reduction: 6,196 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$252
Miles Smoke Tested: 299
1,165 of 1,209 Leaks Repaired
Projects in the Plan: 6

Septic to Sewer



Budget: \$146,772,832
TN Reduction: 103,510 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,418
Homes Connected: 983
Homes Contracted: 1,141
Homes in the Plan: 4,929

Septic System Upgrades



Budget: \$45,183,828
TN Reduction: 43,310 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,043
Homes Upgraded: 653
Homes Contracted: 1,066
Homes in the Plan: 2,671

Stormwater Projects



Budget: \$83,775,372
TN Reduction: 217,501 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$385
Projects Completed: 56
Projects Underway: 17
Projects in the Plan: 229

Aquatic Vegetation Harvesting



Budget: \$2,890,339
TN Reduction: 47,498 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$61
Projects Completed: 10
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 11

Muck Removal



Budget: \$162,569,997
TN Reduction: 235,202 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$691
Projects Completed: 4
Projects Underway: 13
Projects in the Plan: 21

Interstitial Water Treatment



Budget: \$50,896,253
TN Reduction: 500,032 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$102
Projects Completed: 3
Projects Underway: 11
Projects in the Plan: 15

Oyster Bars



Budget: \$11,108,467
TN Reduction: 22,261 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$499
Projects Completed: 15
Projects Underway: 7
Projects in the Plan: 30

Planted Shorelines



Budget: \$110,132
TN Reduction: 440 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$250
Projects Completed: 9
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 10

Clam Restoration



Budget: \$557,470
TN Reduction: 4,241 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$131
Projects Completed: 12
Projects Underway: 8
Projects in the Plan: 20

\$504.6M
2017-2025 Revenue

\$583.4M
10-Year Revenue Estimate

\$103.6M
2017-2025 Expenditures

\$431.8M
Projects Underway

Save
our
LAGOON



Brevard County's

Save
our

LAGOON



Town of Melbourne Beach, May 21, 2026

Terri Breeden, Program Manager

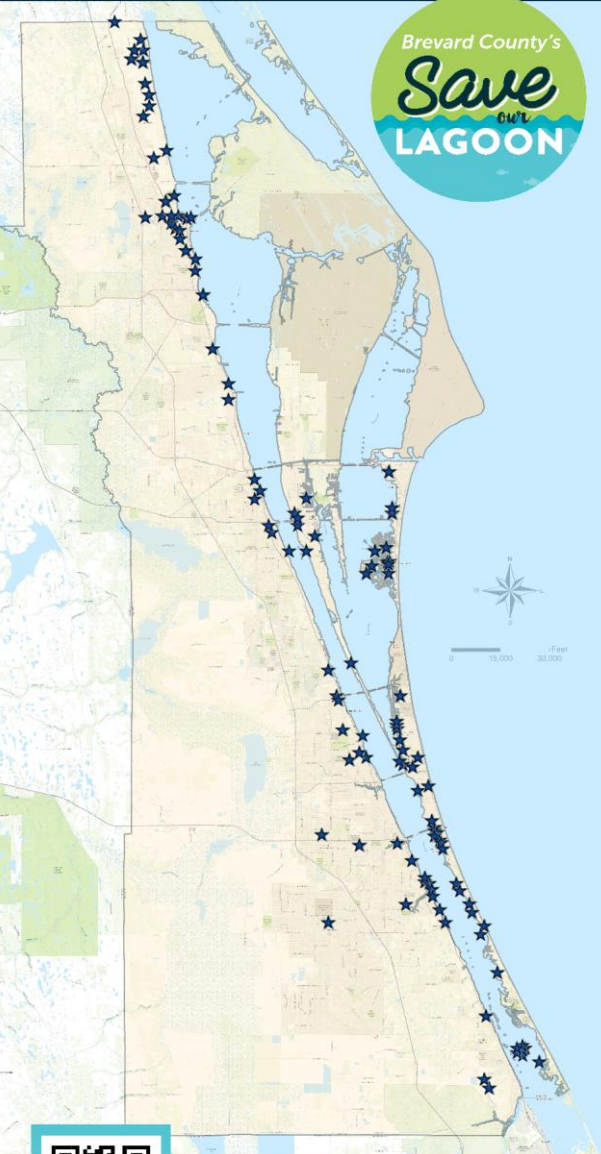


A photograph of a mangrove forest with lush green trees and a white egret standing on the right side. The water is clear and blue.

County Wide ½ Cent Infrastructure Sales Tax

MISSION: *RESTORING* the Indian River Lagoon through collaborative, science-based projects which *REDUCE* and *REMOVE* pollution to benefit our community, economy, and natural resources.





SOIRL Project Progress

133 Completed Projects

- 18 Titusville
- 17 Clam Projects
- 15 Brevard Zoo
- 10 Cocoa Beach
- 5 Marine Resources Council
- 5 Melbourne
- 4 Cocoa
- 3 Satellite Beach
- 2 Indian Harbour Beach
- 2 Palm Bay
- 2 Rockledge
- 2 West Melbourne
- 1 Private Mobile Home Park...
- 1 Private Business Park
- 1 Cape Canaveral
- 1 Indialantic
- 1 Melbourne Tillman WCD
- 1 Merritt Island Redevelopment
- 1 St. Johns River Water Mgmt
- 41 Brevard County Projects
- + 2,499 Homeowner Projects



Scan for more
project information



2025 Indian River Lagoon Economic Valuation

Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2025 Indian River Lagoon
Economic Valuation:

Economic Impact Update and
Ecosystem Services Valuation

Technical Report 2025-02b
September 2025



\$28.3 BILLION
in spending
generates



\$14 BILLION
in value added
to local GDP



\$8.3 BILLION
in wages



128,400
jobs

Economic Impact from the Indian River Lagoon

TOTAL	EMPLOYMENT	LABOR INCOME (millions \$)	VALUE ADDED (millions \$)	OUTPUT (millions \$)
Direct	71,689	\$ 5,163	\$ 8,473	\$ 17,110
Indirect	33,462	\$ 2,022	\$ 3,016	\$ 5,817
Induced	23,249	\$ 1,157	\$ 2,474	\$ 3,983
Property Value Impacts, Annualized*	-	-	-	\$ 1,378
Total	128,400	\$ 8,342	\$ 13,963	\$ 28,288

* The total contribution to 2025 property values was \$23 billion, annualized at a 6% discount rate to \$1.4 billion.
Source: The Balmoral Group work product.

322,773
lbs total nitrogen (TN) reduced
178,966 lbs/year + 143,807 lbs one-time

125
Community
Projects
Completed!

2026 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Status

Progress as of December 31, 2025

2,356
Home Owner
Projects
Completed!

22,280
lbs total phosphorus (TP) reduced
15,963 lbs/year + 6,317 lbs one-time

Public Education & Engagement



Budget: \$4,000,742
TN Reduction: 33,709 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$119
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 6
Projects in the Plan: 7

WWTF Upgrades for Reclaimed Water



Budget: \$37,964,159
TN Reduction: 82,174 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$462
Projects Completed: 4
Projects Underway: 5
Projects in the Plan: 10

Rapid Infiltration Basin/ Sprayfield Upgrades



Budget: \$93,054
TN Reduction: 317 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$294
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 2

Package Plant Connections



Budget: \$1,484,731
TN Reduction: 911 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,630
Projects Completed: 1
Projects Underway: 1
Projects in the Plan: 2

Smoke Testing/ Sewer Lateral Repairs



Budget: \$1,558,648
TN Reduction: 6,196 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$252
Miles Smoke Tested: 299
1,165 of 1,209 Leaks Repaired
Projects in the Plan: 6

Septic to Sewer



Budget: \$146,772,832
TN Reduction: 103,510 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,418
Homes Connected: 983
Homes Contracted: 1,141
Homes in the Plan: 4,929

Septic System Upgrades



Budget: \$45,183,828
TN Reduction: 43,310 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$1,043
Homes Upgraded: 653
Homes Contracted: 1,066
Homes in the Plan: 2,671

Stormwater Projects



Budget: \$83,775,372
TN Reduction: 217,501 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$385
Projects Completed: 56
Projects Underway: 17
Projects in the Plan: 229

Aquatic Vegetation Harvesting



Budget: \$2,890,339
TN Reduction: 47,498 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$61
Projects Completed: 10
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 11

Muck Removal



Budget: \$162,569,997
TN Reduction: 235,202 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$691
Projects Completed: 4
Projects Underway: 13
Projects in the Plan: 21

Interstitial Water Treatment



Budget: \$50,896,253
TN Reduction: 500,032 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$102
Projects Completed: 3
Projects Underway: 11
Projects in the Plan: 15

Oyster Bars



Budget: \$11,108,467
TN Reduction: 22,261 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$499
Projects Completed: 15
Projects Underway: 7
Projects in the Plan: 30

Planted Shorelines



Budget: \$110,132
TN Reduction: 440 lbs/year
Average Cost/lb TN: \$250
Projects Completed: 9
Projects Underway: 0
Projects in the Plan: 10

Clam Restoration



Budget: \$557,470
TN Reduction: 4,241 lbs
Average Cost/lb TN: \$131
Projects Completed: 12
Projects Underway: 8
Projects in the Plan: 20

\$504.6M
2017-2025 Revenue

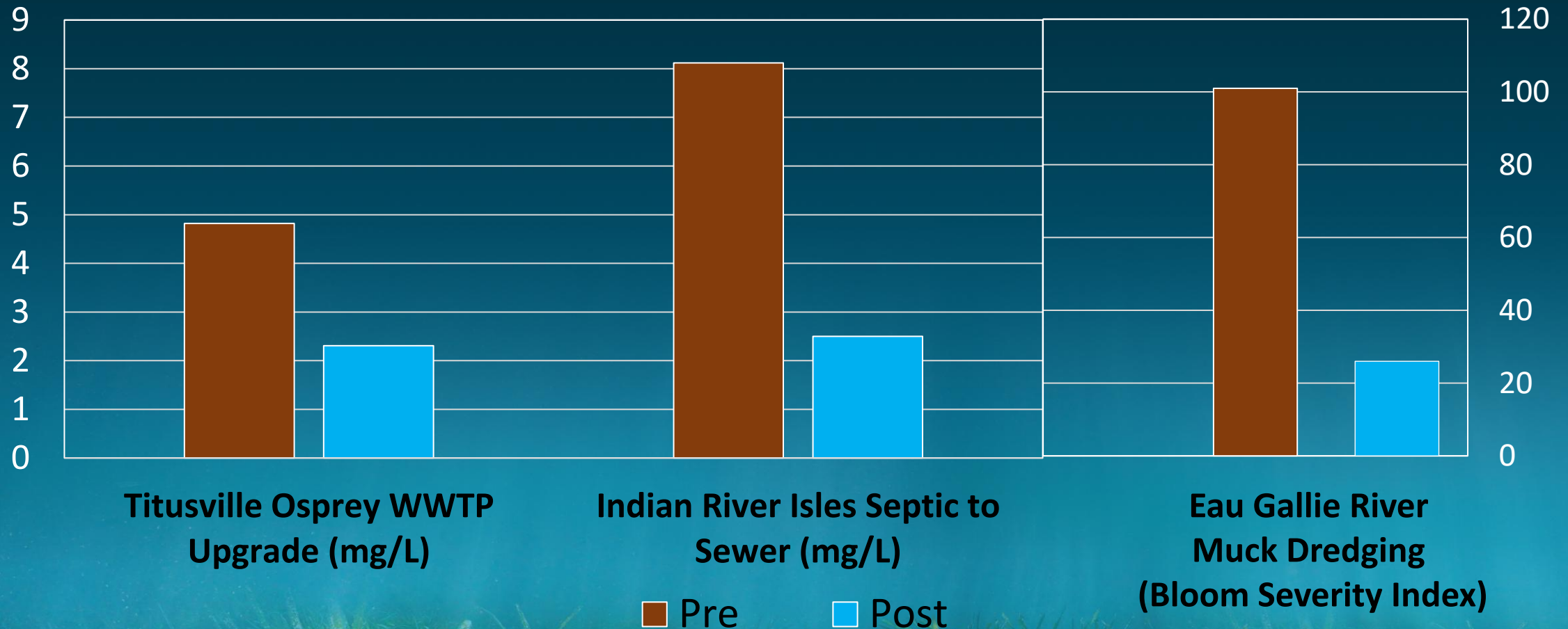
\$583.4M
10-Year Revenue Estimate



\$103.6M
2017-2025 Expenditures

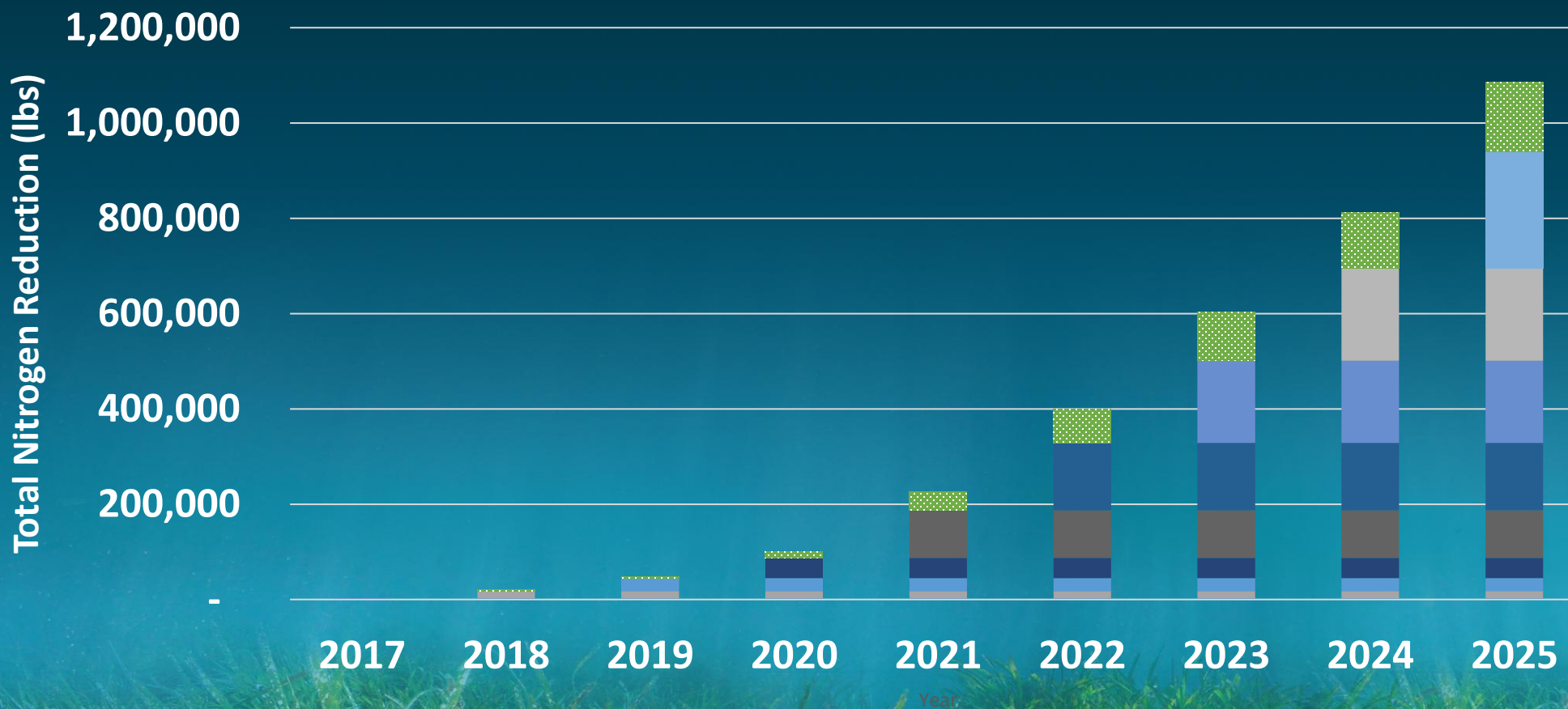
\$431.8M
Projects Underway

Pollution Reduction Progress Pre vs Post



Cumulative Total Nitrogen Reduction

Cumulative Total Nitrogen Reduction (Pounds TN)

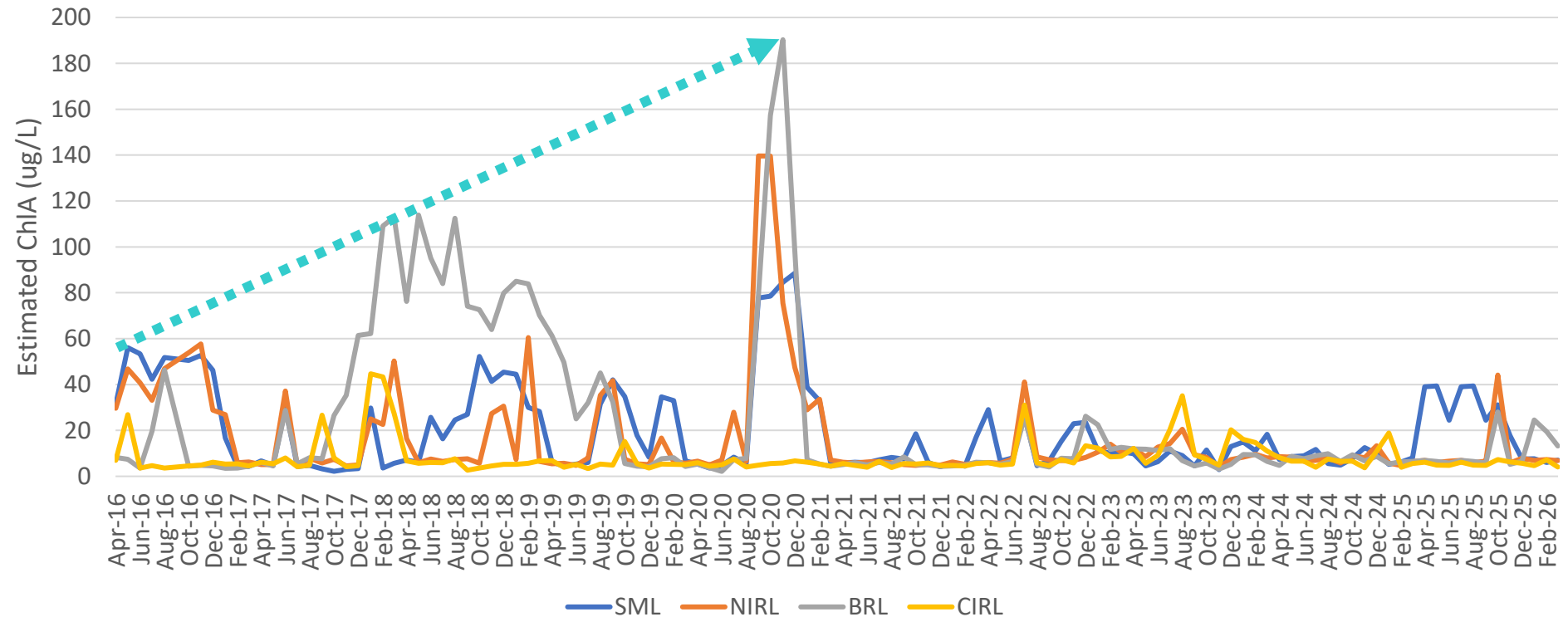


Algae Bloom Response (2016-2025)

Sentinel 3
NDCI Estimated Chlorophyll A
Concentrations



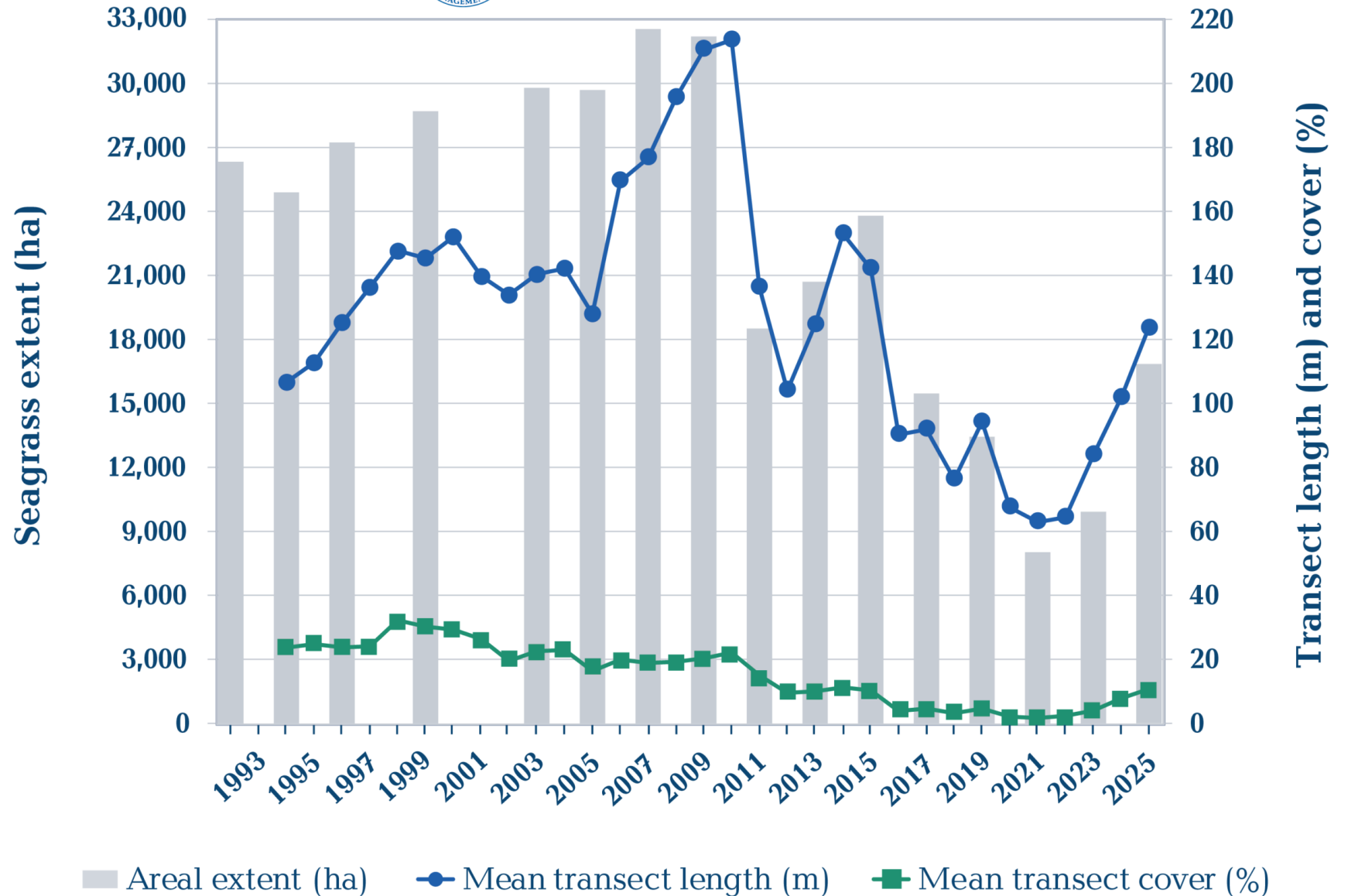
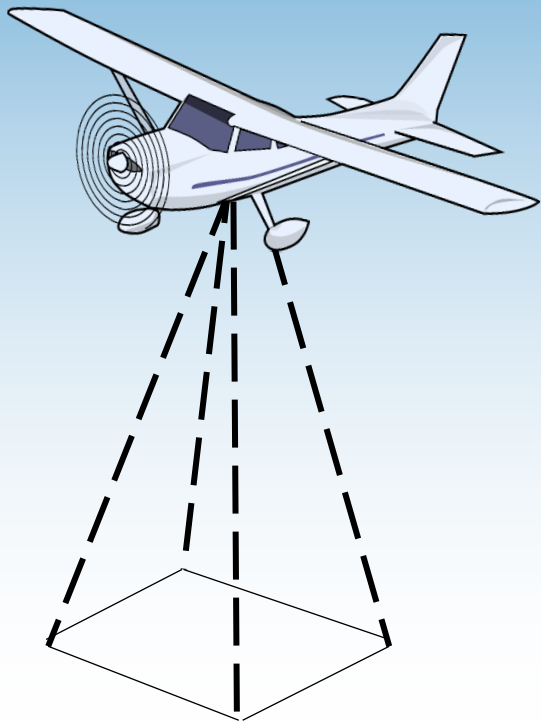
Median Monthly NDCI Estimated Chlorophyll A Concentrations for the Basins of the Indian River Lagoon in Brevard County, FL



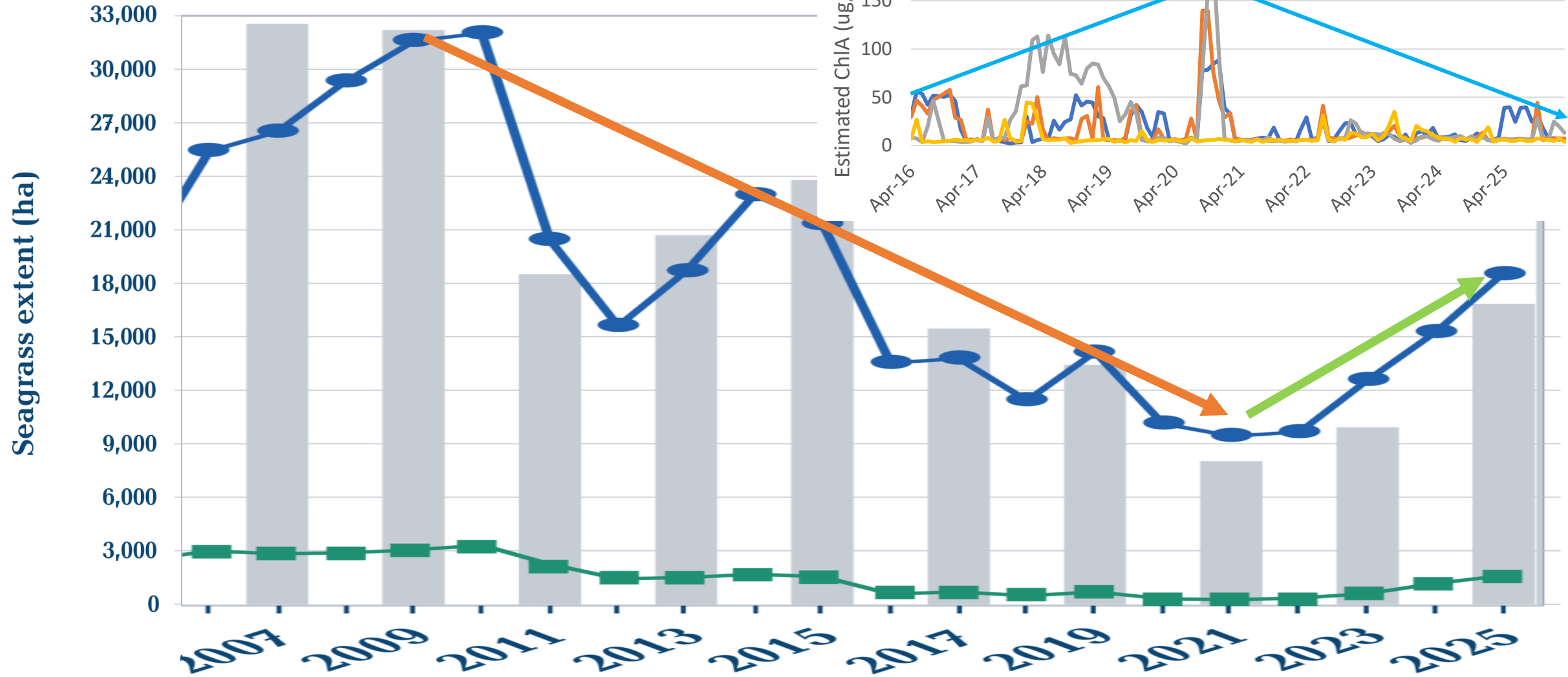


St. Johns River Water Management District

Aerial Surveys
Every 2–3 years



Evidence of Progress: Seagrass Response





SOIRL Renewal Schedule

- **May 19 – Public Hearing to Adopt Ordinance and Ballot Language**
- **May-July – Execute ILA Extensions**
- **August – Submit Ballot Language to Supervisor of Elections**
- **June-September – Entities submit 2027 Plan Update Project Requests**
- **October – Review and Ranking of 2027 Plan Update Project Requests**
- **November 3rd – General Election**
- **November 20th – Oversight Committee Recommends Which Project Requests to Fund**
- **December – Post Draft 2027 Plan Update**
- **January 2027 – Citizen Oversight Committee to Review/Recommend Draft 2027 Plan Update**
- **February 2027 – BOCC to Consider/Adopt 2027 Plan Update**

**SOIRL is working.
Restoration takes time.
Hope is on the Horizon!**



Kim

Get More Information

IRLProject@BrevardFL.gov



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Become Lagoon Loyal

